

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the present amendments and following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3 and 5-20 are pending in the present application, Claims 1, 9, 13, 16, and 17 having been amended, and Claim 4 having been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, the title was objected to; Claims 16 and 17 were objected to; Claims 1, 2, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Yoshida (JP 4-364063); Claims 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Yoshida (JP 4-36063); Claims 9-15 and 17-20 were allowed; and Claims 3, 4, 7, and 8 were objected to for depending from a rejected base claim, but were otherwise not indicated as including allowable subject matter.

With respect to the objection to the title, a new title is provided herewith. Applicants respectfully request the objection to the title be withdrawn.

With respect to the objection to Claims 16 and 17, the grammatical informality identified in the outstanding Office Action is corrected. Applicants respectfully request that the objection to Claims 16 and 17 be withdrawn.

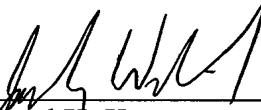
Moreover, Claims 1, 9, and 13 are amended to correct some minor informalities.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of Claims 9-15 and 17-20, and the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 3, 4, 7, and 8. In light of this indication, Claim 1 is amended to include the allowable subject matter of Claim 4. According, Claim 1 (and Claims 2, 3, and 5-8 dependent thereon) are in condition for allowance.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for formal allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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